

# DATING: FIND YOUR PLAYER TWO

A NEW BOOK HELPS GEEKS WIN THE DATING GAME. PAGE 21



# metro

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## Sleigh Bells (make your ears) ring

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## Style: Don't sweat the sweatpants

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## You will go mental for Mezcal

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## Rodriguez blasts MLB, Bud Selig

PAGE 27

**Artistic Exodus?** The city is developing a cultural plan to keep the cost of living affordable for artists so they don't move to less expensive locales. **Idea to emulate.** Part of the plan would look at adding more city-incubated Spaceworks facilities in the five boroughs and discovering new ways of offering cheap housing to artists. PAGE 02



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## NEWS

### Top 3

**What's trending online at Metro.us**

**1** 'VIDEO: Watch Channing Tatum spoof Van Damme's "Epic Split" Volvo commercial'

**2** 'VIDEO: Rob Ford and Chris Farley come together in hilarious mashup'

**3** 'VIDEO: Harry Potter looks for Platform 9 3/4 at NYC's Penn Station'



Spaceworks in Long Island City provides an affordable place for artists to work. Top left, the Variations Theatre Group practice an original musical at Spaceworks. Top right, Nicola Iervasi and Caterina Rago practice a dance routine. Bottom right, performance artist Regina Gibson talks with Josh Rowe. / GWEN MCCLURE, METRO

# Creating a blueprint to help save city arts

**Curtain call.** New York City is coming up with a plan to keep the city affordable for artists.

Chicago has one. So do Philadelphia, Los Angeles, Dallas and Phoenix.

All around the country, cities have adopted cultural plans — a process in which a city takes stock of its arts/cultural resources and needs, and sets future goals.

With no comprehensive cultural plan, New York is now the odd city out.

"That's a glaring, glaring omission for our city," said Councilman Jimmy Van Bramer of Queens.

He and Councilman Stephen Levin of Brooklyn are leading the charge to change that: They've introduced a bill that would require the city to come up with a cultural plan by July 2015.

"I think it's important to establish a blueprint for how we fund culture, how we support it, how we want to look at it long-term," Levin said.

### Expensive city

#### Studio rent through roof

Though rent and living expenses are uniquely high in New York City, so too are the costs associated with being an artist.

Stephanie Diamond is a social practice artist who runs the Listings Project, a weekly email of real estate options aimed at artists, including art studio listings. Diamond said that since she started

the Listings Project in 2003, she has seen prices go up considerably.

Renting a studio space "used to be a dollar per square foot, but it's definitely not that anymore," she said.

### Arts ambassador

Prime rental spaces for artists in Manhattan can cost up to \$75 an hour and are often tightly booked.

- In creating the cultural plan, Van Bramer said many strategies for championing the arts will be on the table, including finding new ways of offering affordable housing to artists.
- Van Bramer is not simply an observer and legislative ambassador to the arts. Sometimes he's a participant. On Saturday, he will be dancing, acting and, he said, "maybe even singing" in a fundraiser for the performing arts center at Queens College.

### Quoted

**"I think it's important to establish a blueprint for how we fund culture, how we support it, how we want to look at it long-term."**

Levin

On Tuesday the conversation began, as the city's Cultural Affairs Committee held its first hearing on a cultural plan.

Mark Rossier, deputy director of the New York Foundation for the Arts, was one of more than two dozen people from cultural and arts organizations who testified.

"In talking about the arts, people often forget that art is actually made by artists who have to find ways to live and sur-

vive and create in this city," Rossier said.

In recent years, arts and cultural organizations have seen hefty cuts to their budgets, as private and municipal sources have reduced their contributions to the arts.

Rossier touched on a concern shared by arts administrators and celebrities alike, including Lena Dunham of HBO's "Girls" and David Byrne of the Talking Heads: that New York will prove too expensive for many art-

ists and they'll move elsewhere.

Kirk Gostkowski, artistic director of Variations Theatre Group in Queens, said that securing affordable rehearsal space is a daunting task. But rehearsal space is necessary, he said.

"You need to go to a work environment to do your work," he said.

This week, Gostkowski is running rehearsals for a musical at Spaceworks, a new city-incubated facility in Long Island City that rents rehearsal studios for \$12-\$16 an hour.

Spaceworks' Queens facility opened earlier this year with substantial city funding, as did a second location in Gowanus with two visual arts studios. Three other Spaceworks locations are slated to open in Red Hook, Williamsburg and on Governors Island.

"Spaceworks is a really terrific first step," Van Bramer said. But he said that more still needs to be done to help make New York City more affordable for artists.

GIANNA PALMER  
letters@metro.us

**Quoted**

**"I saw him once; I went to see him at a crowd ... 1960 I guess, and he was in Queens where I lived at the time, just to get a glimpse of him. It was such a major jolt to the country."**

Police Commissioner Ray Kelly on the death of John F. Kennedy

# HAVE YOU SEEN WLNY LATELY?

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## In Brooklyn

## Concern mounting over possible 'knockout' attacks

A series of seemingly random assaults in Brooklyn have officials concerned that a violent trend seen in other cities may have made its way to New York City.

Officials are saying a "street game" called "knockout," which involves an attacker punching a victim in the head without warning and knocking them unconscious, could be responsible for some assaults in Brooklyn. Attacks seeming to fit that description have been caught on video in

various cities, including Pittsburgh, Hoboken, and St. Louis.

Assemblyman Dov Hikind has condemned the attacks and is, according to his office, "working with other officials to make sure that this matter is given the maximum attention given the dangers involved."

The latest victim was a 78-year-old woman in his district, officials said. She was carrying a purse and shopping bags when she was punched.

On Wednesday, community leaders, elected officials and members of the NYPD, met to discuss the attacks, some of which have appeared to be targeting Jewish residents.

DANIELLE TCHOLAKIAN

### No exceptions

**"We have zero tolerance for hate crimes, and these 'knockout' attacks in Crown Heights are no exception."**

**Councilwoman Letitia James**

# De Blasio visits tent, talks transition efforts

**Change.** The mayor-elect spoke about transition efforts in lower Manhattan.

Six weeks before Bill de Blasio's inauguration, the mayor-elect spoke about transition efforts in a tent downtown where New Yorkers continue to share their ideas for the next administration.

"If you give people a chance to offer their ideas, you'll find an extraordinary number of New Yorkers who have positive, productive ideas," de Blasio said Wednesday at the Talking Transition tent on Canal Street in Manhattan.

Talking Transition is meant to engage the public during the city's first transfer of power in 12 years. The tent hosts panels and



Mayor-elect de Blasio met with people at the Talking Transition Tent. / GETTY IMAGES

**Quoted**

**"I have immense respect for public service and for public servants. But I also know that, many times, the best ideas reside at the grass roots."** De Blasio

De Blasio

discussions with various community and nonprofit groups. De Blasio said that the effort was “extraordinary” and goes hand-in-hand with what he and his transition team are trying to accomplish.

The mayor-elect also announced a 60-person transition committee and stressed his team was

"right on track" in making appointments to his administration.

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Bill Clinton receives the 2013 Presidential Medal of Freedom presented by President Barack Obama in the East Room of the White House on Wednesday in Washington, D.C. / GETTY IMAGES

# Obama, Clintons join forces for Kennedy event

**Politics.** It allowed Obama and Clinton to warm a relationship that has seen its share of strains.

President Barack Obama joined forces with Bill and Hillary Clinton on Wednesday to recognize the legacy of John F. Kennedy, the president who inspired a generation until he was felled by an assassin's bullets 50 years ago this week.

Obama awarded the highest U.S. civilian honor, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, to former

President Clinton and 15 other Americans who have made significant contributions to U.S. culture, politics, sports and science.

The event was intended as a testament to the memory of Kennedy, who signed an executive order shortly before his death creating the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Kennedy also established the Peace Corps and set the country on a path to landing humans on the moon.

After the event in a packed White House East Room, Obama, Clinton and his wife, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, paid homage to Kennedy in a visit to his

Arlington National Cemetery grave.

The day was steeped in powerful political imagery as Obama and the Clintons appeared together against a backdrop of speculation that Hillary Clinton may be laying the groundwork for a run for the Democratic presidential nomination in 2016.

REUTERS

Dark day

## 1963

Kennedy was shot to death by assassin Lee Harvey Oswald on Nov. 22, 1963, as he and his wife, Jacqueline, rode in a motorcade in Dallas.

Has no subscribers

## Oregon's health care site never worked

Oregon, a state that fully embraced the Obamacare, is enduring one of the rockiest rollouts of President Obama's signature health care law, with an inoperative online exchange that has yet to enroll a single subscriber, requiring thousands to apply on paper instead. **REUTERS**

## Obamacare. Early data show older people more likely to sign up

More older Americans than young adults so far have signed up for new insurance coverage under the state marketplaces created by President Barack Obama's health care law, according to early data from four states reporting details on their enrollment.

The age balance is being closely watched to

determine the financial stability of the insurance market created by the Affordable Care Act, as the participation of younger people is needed to offset costs for sicker beneficiaries. To ensure that younger people sign up, the law requires individuals to pay a penalty if they do not have health coverage. **REUTERS**

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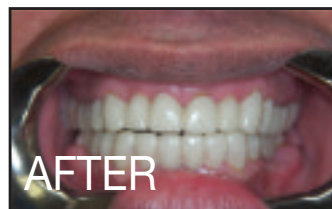
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# Fla. congressman gets probation on cocaine charge

**Prison.** If he had been caught in Florida buying an equal amount he could have faced felony charges.

Florida Congressman Henry "Trey" Radel pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charge of possession of cocaine in D.C. Superior Court on Wednesday and was sentenced to one year of probation.

Radel, 37, a Republican who was elected to the House of Representatives last year with the backing of the Tea Party movement, was charged after buying 3.5 grams of cocaine in Washington's Dupont Circle neighbor-



Freshman Rep. Trey Radel, R-Fla. / GETTY IMAGES

hood on Oct. 29 in the presence of an undercover agent, the government said.

"Your honor, I apologize for what I've done," Radel told Judge Robert Tignor during the sentencing hearing. In an earlier statement, Radel said his "struggles with alcoholism" had led him

### Quoted

"I am so sorry to be here. I know I have let my constituents down, my country down and, most importantly, my family, including my wife and my 2-year-old, who doesn't know it yet."

Radel told Tignor in court

to make an "extremely irresponsible choice."

The case against Radel stemmed from an investigation by Federal Bureau of Investigation and Drug Enforcement Administration agents into cocaine trafficking in the Washington area, Assistant U.S. Attorney Nihar Mohanty said. **REUTERS**

### Lethal injection

## Missouri executes serial killer

Missouri serial killer Joseph Paul Franklin was executed by lethal injection on Wednesday after the Supreme Court cleared the way for him to be put to death for murdering a man outside a synagogue in 1977.

**REUTERS**

### Stabbing

## Senator's condition upgraded

Virginia State Sen. Creigh Deeds' condition was upgraded to "good" from "fair" Wednesday at the University of Virginia Medical Center, where he was airlifted a day earlier for treatment of stab wounds, a hospital spokeswoman said.

**REUTERS**



Creigh Deeds hugs his son Gus after addressing supporters. / GETTY IMAGES

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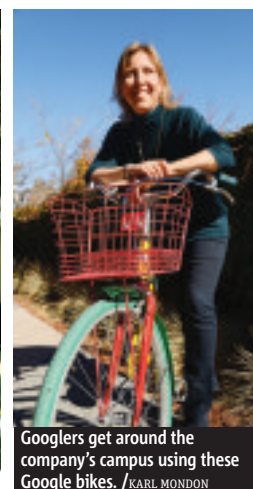
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Google took its first baby steps in Susan Wojcicki's garage in Palo Alto. / GETTY IMAGES



Googlers get around the company's campus using these Google bikes. / KARL MONDON

# From garage to top office: Google's own superwoman

**Career path.** Susan Wojcicki's brave decision to join a young startup called Google was wise. Today she's the world's most powerful ad boss.

Susan Wojcicki is Silicon Valley royalty. She and her two sisters grew up on the campus of Stanford University, where her father, Stanley, was a physics professor. All three girls went on to pursue careers in male-dominated areas.

"We were surrounded by people who were really passionate about what they did and had dedicated their lives to specific fields," Wojcicki said. "I think that gave us an influence about trying to pick fields that are important that we could dedicate ourselves to."

Stanley Wojcicki, too, has a pioneering background: At age 12, he fled from his native Poland on a boat going to Sweden. He was joined by his brother and mother — but not his father, a former cabinet minister. The family had been informed that the boat had four spaces; it only had three. Stanley's father volunteered to stay behind and was never able



Susan Wojcicki sits inside Google's headquarters in Mountain View, Calif., where the ads on your PC, laptop, tablet and phone are made. / KARL MONDON

### Quoted

**"People's reactions were, 'Why would you just want to be in front of a computer all the time?'"**

Wojcicki

to rejoin his family.

Wojcicki described her mother, Esther, as "always willing to be a bit of a rabble-rouser, always willing to complain about things, to take the less traditional path. In some ways it set us free to do things that are

less traditional."

Equipped with these influences, Wojcicki chose a career in technology at a time when it was extremely rare for women to do so. "When I first started being interested in technology, most people had no idea why," she said. "People's reactions were, 'Why would you just want to be in front of a computer all the time?' And, 'You're very social and creative; why would you just want to be in this geeky field?'"

But, she said, "I saw that technology really was creative, that I could build a lot of things and that those things would be used by

people all over the world."

After renting out her Palo Alto garage to Google co-founders Larry Page and Sergey Brin, who used it as their first office in 1998, she joined the tiny company. "I saw that they had the ability to build something that could become really great, so I wanted to be part of that," she said. "The reason I thought it was going to be successful was that it was growing, even though it didn't have any advertising or marketing."

"It was also addressing a real need. People were looking for information, and Google provided a much better search experience than all the other search engines. And it had a good product. In the tech field, having good technology really makes a difference. It's really obvious, but there are a lot of companies that get into technology without having that core underlying technology."

Susan's sister Anne went on to marry Brin, though they're now separated. The third sister, Janet, is a professor at the University of California, San Francisco. Today, Susan is ranked 30 on Forbes' list of the world's 100 most powerful women.



**ELISABETH  
BRAW**

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## Finally solved. The riddle of the rotating Egyptian statue

For months, curators at a British museum had been wondering how an ancient Egyptian statue in a sealed display cabinet had been able to rotate on its glass shelf, seemingly of its own free will.

Rumors abounded that it was cursed by an Egyptian god, or that the spirit of its owner had entered the figurine, causing it to shudder.

Others put forward more prosaic explanations, suggesting a magnetic field was behind the statue's movements.

But now, a British engineer has solved the riddle, discovering that minuscule vibrations from traffic and footsteps from passersby were causing the 3,800-year-old stone figurine to spin. **REUTERS**

### Civil unions

#### Illinois governor signs same-sex marriage into law

Illinois Gov. Pat Quinn signed same-sex marriage into law on Wednesday afternoon, making President Barack Obama's home

state the 16th to allow such unions.

Illinois state senators voted to legalize gay marriage last February, and the state House followed suit by a slim margin earlier this month. Once signed by the Democratic governor, the law is due to take effect on June 1, 2014. **REUTERS**

# Environmentalists clash with LG over headquarters



"This is what the Hudson River looked like 400 years ago when Henry Hudson sailed down it. It's such a rare piece of property in this the most developed part of the nation," said Ed Goodell, of the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference. / GETTY IMAGES

**Nature.** A handful of structures stand on the Palisades, but most of the cliffs appear undeveloped.

Across the Hudson River from New York City and atop the steep cliffs of the New Jersey Palisades, LG Electronics Inc. has drawn the ire of environmental-

ists, and a Rockefeller, over its new North America headquarters.

LG says the 143-foot-tall headquarters will meet the highest standards in sustainable architecture. Critics argue that the company is spoiling natural views and are begging LG for a shorter building.

"LG would essentially ruin an American landmark," said Larry Rockefeller, whose grandfather, John D. Rockefeller Jr.,

### Miles

# 13

The Palisades are a series of forested cliffs stretching 13 miles north of the George Washington Bridge on the New Jersey side of the Hudson that were designated a national landmark in 1965.

donated land for the Palisades Interstate National Park on the condition that structures visible from

across the river were removed.

Local governments have long required construction near the Palisades to be shorter than 35 feet to be hidden by the trees. But in 2011, the town of Englewood Cliffs granted LG a permit to build 143 feet high for its headquarters, where the company plans to add 700 new jobs and build a science exhibition space for children. **REUTERS**

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## DOUGLAS COUPLAND

Douglas Coupland is a Canadian writer, artist and designer. His first novel was 1991's "Generation X: Tales for an Accelerated Culture." His novella, "Temp," of which this is the 11th installment, will be running online and in the pages of your daily Metro each weekday through Nov. 29.

# Day 14: Temp makes lemonade from lemons

OK, the nice thing about being a temp is that if you screw up, you leave; but you were going to leave anyway, so it's no big deal. I suppose this is true for anybody with a job, but for temps it's just more out in the open.

After almost no sleep I arrived at work only to find gossip and fear mongering. The worst gossip was that Danimal was in a coma, when, in fact, he was in a \$20,000-a-day hotel with a slightly collapsed left lung and an unhelpful feeling-sorry-for-himself attitude.

Sarah No. 1 walked up to me at my desk and said, "I guess we were all behaving badly yesterday."

I was incensed: "I was doing no such thing! I was there just to listen to Dan vent about the warehouse fire! You're the one who got a room."

Sarah winked at me:

"Have it your way. Here's a pile of files that need alphabetizing."

Ugh. I decided my day desperately needed some cheer, so I phoned my sister's friend who breeds golden labs. We had a quick chat, and just before lunchtime, she arrived with two blue plastic storage tubs filled with puppies.

I ushered her into the admin area. In a loud, crisp voice I shouted, "Oh no! There's been an explosion!"

Everyone looked stunned.

"That's right — an

explosion of cute! Hilda, release the hounds!"

Ahhh, the puppy bomb — is there any greater experience in life? Eighteen chubby bundles of YouTube-able, romping joy demanding nothing except unconditional love — and snacks.

Everybody got down on the floor, and it took only a minute for people to learn that the person with the most food is the one who gets the most puppies, so in came the lunch bags. I was proud to have brought even the smallest dab of joy to the otherwise dreary lives

See more at  
[www.metro.us](http://www.metro.us)



There's been an explosion of cute! Little puppies can make any bad day for Shannon a little bit more tolerable. / ZOOMAR

of the soon-to-be-fired, full-time staff. Yes, I was proud of myself for firmly turning the day around.

The icing on the cake? Outside the building there was a zombie walk with about 200 kids, dressed in their finest living dead, headed to a political protest starting outside AmQex next door.

And that's when two things happened: A massive bus, like Bon Jovi on

tour, pulled into the parking lot and 50 Chinese people emerged holding measuring tapes, string and clip boards. Then half a minute later about 20 cops arrived to shut down the AmQex protest. "They make engine parts for drones," whispered Sarah.

The Chinese delegate's leader said, "I am most curious to see how protesters are handled in your country."



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# 2

## CULTURE

### Twitter feed

Today, Kirstie Alley isn't feeling too well and Katy Perry finds love very painful.

@kirstiealley: I am up WAY too early with THE most annoying cold!!!! I HATE coughing !!!! Ugh!!!

@katyperry: Yes, unconditional love sometimes feels like being hit by a car... Or being on fire... How does it feel to you?

## Big news in babies and matrimony in Hollywood

A lot's shaking this week in babies and engagements, friends!

First up is Kelly Clarkson, who wasn't joking when she said she was planning to get started on a family as soon as possible after marrying Brandon Blackstock last month. The singer took to Twitter with some very big news: "I'm pregnant! Brandon and I are so excited! Best early Christmas present ever," she wrote. And if she has her way, the baby will be wearing pink. "I'm totally gonna have a girl. I'm manifesting it! And when I have a girl, you're gonna be like, 'That chick knew it!'" she gushed to Parade.

Meanwhile, on the less exclamation-point-use front, "Once Upon a Time" co-stars Ginnifer Goodwin

(Snow White) and Josh Dallas (Prince Charming) confirmed they are expecting a little prince or princess of their own. It is not known if Goodwin's pregnancy will be worked into the plot of the show. Chris Hemsworth and wife Elsa Pataky also announced that they are expecting their second child together, Hemsworth's rep confirms. Baby joins big sister India, who was born in 2012.

And finally, there is no fetus between Adam Brody and Leighton Meester, but there is an engagement ring, according to Star magazine. "It was the surprise of her life and she's ecstatic," a source says about Brody's proposal (surprise is right; I had no idea they were even dating). "Right now their plan is to get married next summer. They are still deciding if they want a destination wedding or if they'll marry in southern California somewhere." How "O.C." of them!

### Quoted

"I'm totally gonna have a girl. I'm manifesting it!" Clarkson



"Once Upon a Time," these two co-stars were expecting a baby. And actually, that time is now. / ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

## THE WORD

Dorothy Robinson takes on the world of gossip.

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## ADMIT ONE

Metro rounds up what's in cinemas this week.



### 2 'Delivery Man'

The French-language Canadian dramedy "Star-buck" is getting remakes both here and in France. Vince Vaughn takes the reins as a serial sperm donor who meets the hundreds of kids he's sired.

### 3 'Philomena'

Steve Coogan takes a break from comedy to co-write and star in this real-life drama, playing a political journo who helps a sweet Irish lady (Judi Dench) track down her son, who was taken from her while she was at a cruel and heartless convent.



Don't forget Donald Sutherland and Philip Seymour Hoffman are also in "Catching Fire." / MURRAY CLOSE

### 4 'Weekend of a Champion'

Roman Polanski's 1972 portrait of Formula One star legend Jackie Stewart never got much of a release, but has now been dusted off and appended with a lengthy coda in which the two men, now old, catch up.

### 5 'Is the Man Who is Tall Happy?'

Noam Chomsky sits down with Michel Gondry ("Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind") for a series of loose, roaming chats, which the filmmaker presents in a series of hand-drawn animations.

### 6 'Narco Cultura'

Mexico's blood-soaked drug war is highlighted in this visually stunning documentary, which examines the influence of cartels on both sides of the border and the 60,000 who have died during the fight.

### 7 'The Best Man Holiday'

It only took 14 years, but "The Best Man" — the 1999 dramedy about four friends dealing with marriage and other issues — gets its catch-up sequel, with the likes of Morris Chestnut, Terrence Howard and Nia Long back on board.

See more at  
[www.metro.us](http://www.metro.us)

### Must see

#### 1 'The Hunger Games: Catching Fire'

For her first (of three) sequels, funny-named archery enthusiast Katniss Everdeen (Jennifer Lawrence) is forced into a "special edition" of the tussle from the first, which is a clever way of not doing exactly the same thing again.



MATT PRIGGE  
[matt.prigge@metro.us](mailto:matt.prigge@metro.us)

## Reunions. Monty Python to reform

The comic team Monty Python, whose BBC TV series from the 1970s and feature films made them legends, are to reunite for a stage show, British media reported on Wednesday.

The five surviving Pythons, Eric Idle, John Cleese, Terry Gilliam, Michael Palin and Terry Jones, all in their 70s, would be appearing on stage for the first time together since the 1980s.

"We're getting together and putting on a show — it's real," Jones told BBC.

"I'm quite excited about it. I hope it makes

us a lot of money. I hope to be able to pay off my mortgage!"

On his Twitter account, Palin wrote: "The Python rides again..." while Idle on Tuesday tweeted: "Only three days to go till the Python Press Conference. Make sure Python fans are alerted to the big forthcoming news event."

The troupe last performed live together in "Monty Python Live At The Hollywood Bowl," also released as a film, in 1982. The sixth Python, Graham Chapman, died of cancer at age 48 in 1989. **REUTERS**



From left, Monty Python's Michael Palin, Terry Gilliam, Eric Idle and Terry Jones will reunite for a stage show. / GETTY IMAGES



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# Sleigh Bells have some loud words for 'Bitter Rivals'

**Music.** "Comeback Kid" band comes back once again.

Some critics and know-it-alls assumed Sleigh Bells — arguably Brooklyn's loudest noise-pop platonic pairing — would fizzle out within a few years. And perhaps, considering the utterly distinctive yet kind-of-formulaic nature of blast-off tracks like "Infinity Guitars" and "Tell 'Em," plus the psychic pressure of being one of the biggest "next big things" in 2009, naysayers had a point.

But they hadn't reckoned that Alexis Krauss and Derek E. Miller might

be smarter than the bands who implode after a few blogosphere-catapulted hits. Or at least more showbiz savvy.

"From the very beginning, we were very cautious about who we worked with and who we took advice from," explains Krauss, when asked about all the expectations when, before a Sleigh Bells

album existed, they were getting national exposure and signing with M.I.A.'s label. "I don't want to make it sound like we were paranoid, but we said 'no' to a lot of things."

The duo's prior experiences with the industry hype machine made it easier to dodge its pitfalls. During the first half of the '00s, Miller played in hardcore act Poison the Well, while an adolescent Krauss fronted obscure tween-pop act RubyBlue. Not coincidentally, floor-punchin' crunch mixed with bubblegum blitheness aptly describes the music they wound up writing.

"Bitter Rivals," their latest, probably won't turn any haters into fans, but

If you go

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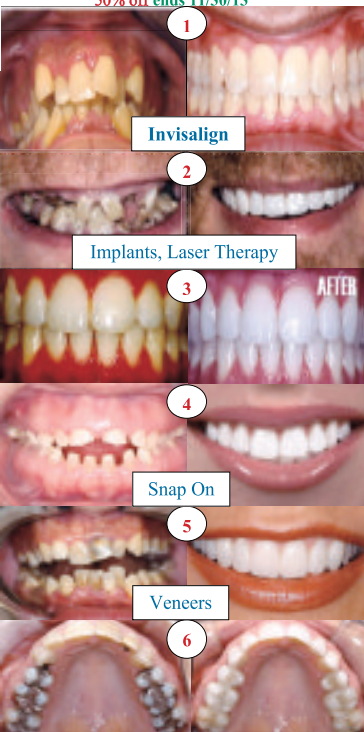
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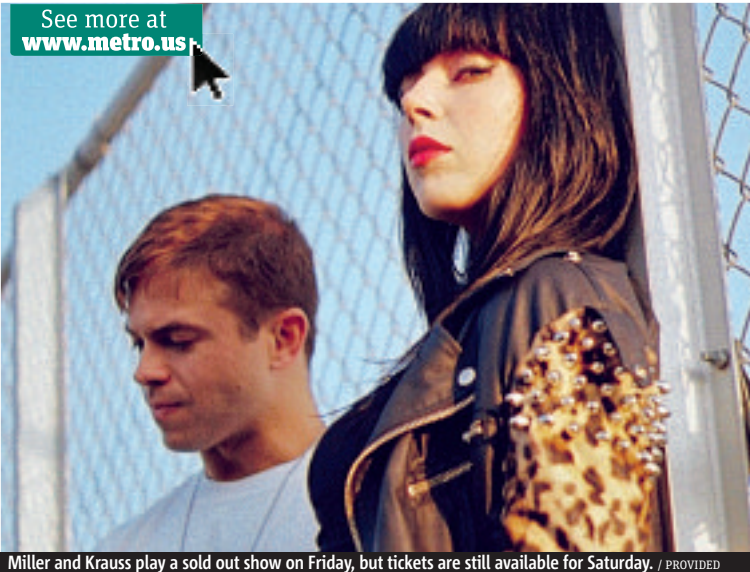
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Miller and Krauss play a sold out show on Friday, but tickets are still available for Saturday. / PROVIDED

#### Dial it up

### This one goes to 11

Coinciding with their sonic progress, Sleigh Bells added a live drummer to their touring lineup, which ought to beef up the already staggeringly ear-splitting volume.

Even though Krauss and Miller made their mark with all-encompassing, absolute loudness, it's not their endgame. "I think we've maxed out the volume threshold at this point," says Krauss. "It's about more than just being loud."

it's not a retreat of earlier albums either.

"We're interested in being a band that makes you feel lots of different ways," says Krauss, "that has you dancing your ass off at one moment, feeling a bit more pensive at another, and moshing the next."

**BARRY THOMPSON**  
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# 'Rituals of Rented Island'

**1970s.** Performance art from the past is revived at the Whitney Museum.

The Whitney Museum's current exhibition, "Rituals of Rented Island: Object Theater, Loft Performance, and the New Psychodrama — Manhattan, 1970-1980," is a groundbreaking look at dated experimental performance art. Think of it as theater without plot, characters or narratives. It's just absurdist acts that were ostensibly created to confuse and alienate audiences.

The Whitney creates an immersive experience that both documents and recreates the performances via installations filled with photographs, scripts, notes, props, costumes and promotional materials.

While this exhibit may overwhelm viewers through its multitude of ephemera plastered on the walls, the performances

themselves are fascinating. Here's a guide to the exhibition's highlights:

1. Art-house darling Jack Smith's "Irrational Landlordism of Bagdad" (1977) merges his loathing of private property and his kitschy love of exoticism.

2. Yvonne Rainer's "This is the story of a woman who ..." (1973) involves dance, plotting the contradictions between one's inner thoughts and physical actions.

3. Vito Acconci's "Claim

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Jack Smith's "Irrational Landlordism of Bagdad" was presented in 1977 in Germany. / GLADSTONE GALLERY

## If you go

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## Rebecca Taylor launches Black Tie collection

You love Rebecca Taylor's pretty, feminine dresses for date nights and birthday parties, but now the label is ready to dress you for something a bit fancier — like a night at the opera or black-tie wedding — with its new line of formal gowns and cocktail dresses.

Inspired by the Pyramide du Louvre after a recent trip to Paris, Taylor set out to create a collection that married the romantic feel of the famous structure with its clean, modern lines. The outcome: dresses in mineral colors, such as steel and blush, embellished with beadwork and crystals, plus floor-grazers made edgy with leather, sheer fabrics and studs. Get your RSVPs in order now. **METRO**



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- **Hands:** Make your digits the supporting cast to your mouth's main performance. Massage. Pinch. Spank!
- **Eyes:** Hold your gaze for 3 or 4 seconds while tilting your head up or to the side, being naughty and hot.
- **Air:** It yums the hum. Your low, continuous purr is an automatic vibrator and making some noise shows you're into it.
- **Teeth:** Vary the sensation. Exercise caution. Alternate kisses, nibbles and sucks to switch things up.

# A SIMPLE GUIDE TO GOING DOWNTOWN



Funky Brown Chick has your back for that awkward moment when your partner is striking out at third base. / IMAGE SOURCE

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Short and simple. I'm wondering if there is a tactful way to tell my girlfriend she is horrible at oral sex. Any suggestions?

Sex is a conversation about desire. Your girlfriend cannot read your mind. If she was sexually active before she met you, it is entirely possible her techniques delighted her other partners just fine.

It sounds like you are somewhat keen on her performance, even if minimally. You want to be turned on and she wants to turn you on, so coach

## Contact this Chick

Puzzled, scared or frustrated in love or lust?

Email questions@funkybrownchick.com and we'll talk it out. (You can remain anonymous.)

her toward success to help make it happen.

It is a delicate conversation. You already know she doesn't want to hear

how she sucks at sucking because, really, no one would. Provide constructive feedback to improve her skills with tact and leave your relationship intact. This is my advice:

### Find out if your partner likes giving oral sex

Do not, I repeat, do not grab a fistful of your lover's hair and guide her south — unless she consents to that. Talk openly and honestly about whether she enjoys feast-

ing downtown. You might discover she doesn't enjoy it at all. If not, recognize her right to refrain. Sex toys and hand jobs with lube are fun alternatives. Your takeaway: Whatever the task at hand (pun intended), it is more fun if you enjoy doing it.

### Encourage, don't discourage

Find out why she likes it. If she's into it because it turns you on, take the opportunity to encourage her while also giving some guidance.

## Use your words

### Respond and use words during the act

Be expressive without giving explicit stage directions. Stroke either side of her face, trace fingers along her ears and don't forget to vocalize your excitement with "Oh, yes," "That feels good," "Ouch, um, that's fantastic," "Just like that," and other sounds and phrases that help clue your practitioner in

on how she is doing.

### Evaluate your relationship

To express desire and communicate directly with someone who has a VIP pass to emotionally hurting you in the most vulnerable places requires self-knowledge, strength, self-esteem and other characteristics that build and bruise over decades. Be patient.

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# 'Let your geek flag fly'

**Books.** Nerds can ace the dating game too.

Behind the game controller, you're as brave as Link from "The Legend of Zelda," and as cool and collected as Master Chief from "Halo." But on a date you're no more suave than Mario.

Self-proclaimed geek Eric Smith is helping geeks navigate the levels of dating in his new book, "The Geek's Guide to Dating." He's made it out alive, and has a fiancée to prove it.

"Just lay it all out there and be who you are," Smith advises daters. "Eventually you're going to find a person who appreciates that."

Smith's road to engagement wasn't easy. In 2011, he penned an essay about a terrible breakup where he sold the engagement ring he'd bought for his intended and bought a suit of Master Chief armor from "Halo." Geeks everywhere found it to be a suitable exchange; the essay quickly went viral. "It's probably the most popular thing I'll ever write," he says, jokingly.

Friends and family encouraged him to write more. "I wrote a couple of essays about video games and my love life and things like that," says Smith, who also co-founded the Philadelphia blog "Geekadelphia." Publishers at Quirk Books took notice, and the result is a dating manual—complete with 8-bit art—that helps Player One find that special Player Two.

Smith's best advice? "My favorite tip is to not be ashamed of anything; let your geek flag fly," he says. When he was dating, Smith says he got some flack for his OkCupid pro-

file that cited his penchant for zombies, video games and a pet rabbit named after a character from the "Watchmen" comic book. "All my friends were telling me, 'Eric, why do you put that up there? No girl is going to want to talk to you,'" he says. His retort: "If someone doesn't want to talk to me, then they're clearly not right for me."

That said, Smith assures readers that your future Player Two doesn't necessarily have to share your nerdy interests.

"It shouldn't be a deal breaker if they aren't into the same things you are," he says, adding that his fiancée isn't a gamer. But Smith lured her into his favorite hobby with something she loves—a good story. "Bioshock Infinite" has this incredible storyline and really memorable characters. She loved it."

But before you dream of playing "Assassin's Creed" with someone special, there's the question of the first date. Smith advises against standard first date spots like movies or concerts. "They're a lot of fun, but there's a lot of people there, and your date might run away with the singer," he says. "It's best to take it to a place where it's just going to be you and that person," he advises.

While his book—available Dec. 3—breaks down every aspect of the dating game, from Facebook creeping to accessorizing, Smith's dating mantra is pretty simple: "I always tell my friends to just go for it. As geeks, we like to overthink things and lay out all of our moves. But as much as people like to call dating a game, it really isn't."

**ANISA ARSENAULT**  
letters@metro.us



"DON'T OVERTHINK IT," SMITH SAYS. "I KNOW AS GEEKS WE LIKE TO OVERTHINK THINGS, AND LAY OUT ALL OF OUR MOVES AND ALL OF OUR PLANS. BUT AS MUCH AS PEOPLE LIKE TO CALL DATING A GAME, IT REALLY ISN'T."

PHOTODISC

## Level up



## Smith's tips for where to go on a first date:

- Choose activities that let you learn about the other person.
- Bookstores or comic book stores work because they let you see what kinds of subjects a potential date is interested in.
- Used book shops are nice because the scent of old books is "romantic," Smith says.
- Record shops are fun because "if they see something they really like, it gives you a chance to be sweet and buy something," he says.

## Quoted

"It shouldn't be a deal breaker if they aren't into the same things you are."

Smith

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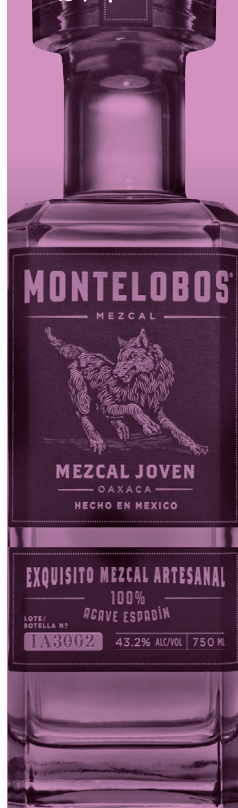


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## Cocktails. Stop being a tourist and start drinking mezcal.

Picture this: It's snowing here but you're far away, on vacation in sunny Mexico, ready to dive fully into the culture. In order to do so successfully, you'll need a margarita in hand, right? Wrong.

Margaritas are for tourists, says Dieter Wiechmann, creative director of Tacombi at Fonda Nolita, a LES hotspot. To get the true Mexican drinking experience, you'll need a glass of mezcal — a smoky twist on tequila that is traditionally enjoyed neat.

Like tequila, mezcal comes from the maguey plant, a type of agave that is native to Mexico. But unlike tequila, which can only be derived from one specific type of maguey plant (blue agave), mezcal can come from all different regions of Mexico.

"It goes all the way back to the Aztecs," Wiechmann says, "not in its refined form, but the fermented sugars from the same plant. ... When the Spanish arrived, they brought

See more at  
[www.metro.us](http://www.metro.us)

# Step aside, tequila



Tacombi serves mezcal with the customary orange slices. / PROVIDED

### Do's and don'ts

- **Don't ask for extra time when ordering:** The proper garnish is an orange to balance the flavors, Wiechmann says.
- **Don't stress about pairing it with certain foods:** The drink is meant to stand on its own.
- **Don't down yours like a Jager Bomb:** Mezcal is a sipping spirit.
- **Do pour a little out before you drink:** It's customary to do so to honor Mayajuel, a fertility goddess who is also the goddess of the agave plant.

their technology of distillation. That's when they started making mezcal as it is now."

Like with wine, the different regions produce different flavors. And like with whiskey, aging mezcal changes the flavor too. Joven mezcals, the youngest, are bottled immediately after distillation. The next oldest, Reposado, is aged three to six months

in oak barrels, creating "a little more color, subtle flavors and sweetness," Wiechmann says. The oldest form of mezcal, Anejo, "gets a much deeper color because it's in a barrel for a year or more."

But unlike wine and whiskey, mezcal won't stick around all that long — it's not very customary to drink a 10-year bottle, he says.

### Get your fill

## Where to drink mezcal in the city

- **Tacombi at Fonda Nolita**, 267 Elizabeth St., 917-727-0179
- **Empellon Cocina**, 105 First Ave., 212-780-0999
- **Sembrado**, 432 E. 13th St., 212-729-4206
- **Mayahuel**, 304 E. Sixth St., 212-253-5888



MEREDITH  
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meredith.engel@metro.us

### You say it's your birthday?

## Happy anniversary!

These places are celebrating, and that means special deals for you.

**Pescatore** (955 Second Ave., 212-752-7151) is thanking its customers for 20 years of loyalty with a two-course \$20 dinner menu each Sunday through the end of the year. Dubbed Parm Sunday,

guests get a salad and a shrimp, chicken, veal, meatball or eggplant parmesan dish.

Nino Selimaj started his foodie career as a dishwasher; now he's celebrating 35 years at the helm of **Nino's Restaurant** (1354 First Ave., 212-988-0002). Through Dec. 10, he's offering a \$35 prix fixe dinner menu. Call for a reservation — word has



Oysters are \$1.50 each this week at The Sea Fire Grill.

PROVIDED

it that Selimaj himself will pick up the phone.

The **Sea Fire Grill** (158 E. 48th St., 212-935-3785) made it to its first birthday and is offering happy hour from 4-7 p.m. all week, plus a new specialty cocktail, Capricorn Rising (made with Martinique Clement Rum, Passion Fruit Smirnoff, Grand Marnier, lime and cranberry juice).

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# The wine that everyone will be drinking today

**Celebrate.** Beaujolais Nouveau can only be released after midnight on the third Thursday in November, per French law.

There's no real wine party like a Beaujolais Nouveau party. In a stroke of brilliant marketing, the wine can only be released after the stroke of midnight on the third Thursday in November, according to French law (this year, that's today). Made with that summer's Gamay grapes, "Beaujolais Nouveau Day" boasts parties all over the world to celebrate the first wine of the season. Here are five things you need to know about the wine:

**1** Beaujolais Nouveau comes from the Beaujolais region in France, which is located south of Burgundy and has been producing wines since Roman times. While there are many wine growers,



Patrons taste the Beaujolais Nouveau wine on Nov. 17, 2010, in Lyon, France, during the 2010 vintage Beaujolais Nouveau launch. / AFP, GETTY IMAGES

Georges Duboeuf is the No. 1 Beaujolais Nouveau brand in the United States.

**2** Beaujolais Nouveau is made from 100 percent Gamay grapes, which have thinner skins than most grapes, causing lower levels of tannin. The wine is meant to be served slightly chilled and goes with a variety of foods, especially holiday turkey and ham.

**3** Originally, Beaujolais Nouveau was the wine of the vineyard workers, consumed to celebrate the end of harvest and giving

them a first taste of the new vintage.

**4** In 1985, France passed a law requiring that Beaujolais Nouveau must always be released on the third Thursday in November anywhere in the world.

**5** As a way to announce the wine's official release, Beaujolais Nouveau arrival parties became popular throughout France and abroad. Now, Beaujolais Nouveau Day is a global celebration — it is the New Year's Eve for wine lovers. **METRO**

## Tonight

### Drink it in NYC

**Terroir** (439 Third Ave., 212-481-1920), is hosting a Beaujolais Nouveau party from 5 p.m.-1 a.m. with steak frites and French tunes. Don your best vintage Parisian wear for a shot at a prize.

Williamsburg's **Brooklyn Winery** (213 N. Eighth St., 347-763-1506) will toast to Beaujolais Nouveau from 7-9 p.m. with its own Brooklyn Nouveau — they call it "a young, Beaujolais Nouveau-style wine" that they produced at the winery this autumn. The \$35 ticket gets you charcuterie and cheese while vintage jazz artist Lapis Luna performs in the background.

## Cocktail of the week

### 100 Day Old Manhattan

Don't be fooled by the dainty orange-peel garnish — the 150-proof 100 Day Old Manhattan is anything but tame. This surprisingly drinkable signature cocktail at the **Black Hound Bar & Lounge** (301 S. End Ave., 212-945-0562) is aged 100 days in a heavy charred oak barrel. The drink is then infused with bitters made from strips of hard, burnt leather. That harsh roasted flavor is countered with baked grapefruit, orange and lemon peels and a medley of spices.

The creation of the 100 Day Old Manhattan — pioneered by mixologist Jeremy Strawn — is something of an art. A lowball glass is carefully rimmed with an orange peel before a combination of Rittenhouse Rye and Antica Carpano is poured. It's diluted with a splash of water and served on the rocks.

ANISA ARSENAULT

ANGELA HADL



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GOING OUT



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### Openings

#### Kefi

505 Columbus Ave.,  
212-873-0200

Michael Psilakis's Greek restaurant was shut down in February after a water main break; on Monday, it makes its triumphant return.

#### Butter

70 W. 45th St.,  
212-302-8703

Alex Guarnaschelli and partners Richie Akiva and Scott Sartiano debut a second location of the haute establishment, which was once the place to see and be seen.

#### Leave Rochelle Out of It

205 Chrystie St.,  
212-673-2400

More than 70 American whiskeys are to be expected, as are traditional eats and barrel service — a take on bottle service that sends drinks to your table in mini barrels of Old Forrester. PS:



Warm up at Hudson Lodge. / MORGANS HOTEL GROUP

The name comes from the creative directors' shared ex-girlfriend.

#### Paulaner Brauhaus

265/267 Bowery,  
212-780-0300

The German brand's first U.S. microbrewery will also serve Bavarian fare.

#### Hudson Lodge

356 W. 58th St.,  
212-554-6217

You don't need to leave NYC to find an apres-ski lodge. The swanky hotel's winter wonderland is back with nightly "snowfalls" and warm comfort food. Bring a coat for New York

### Charity

#### Cronuts for a cause

Everyone loves cronuts, and celebs are no exception. Stars like Heidi Klum, Joan Rivers and Simon Doonan have designed specialty cronut boxes for The Cronut Mission, which benefits God's Love We Deliver. Each box contains two pumpkin cream cronuts topped with a 24K gold leaf. You can bid on the boxes now through Tuesday at [www.biddingowl.com](http://www.biddingowl.com).

Cares and get a free cookie.

#### 100 Montaditos

176 Bleecker St.,  
646-719-1713

This Spanish chain serves more than 100 types of montaditos: crunchy tapas-sized rolls stuffed with the likes of Serrano ham, chorizo and manchego cheese. Each retails for under \$3.

#### The Drunken Munkey

338 E. 92nd St.,  
646-998-4600

This Upper East Side newbie will make craft cocktails and serve Anglo-Indian fare. MEREDITH ENGEL



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## Light Up The Night: Young Friends Hanukkah Event

Thursday, 8 p.m.  
Museum of Jewish Heritage,  
36 Battery Pl.  
\$100-\$136, 646-437-4202  
www.mjhnyc.org  
Grab your friends and get ready to celebrate Thanksgiving with hundreds of young professionals and a gourmet dinner, top-shelf open bar, dancing and a high-end raffle. Prizes include Knicks tickets, Bobbi Brown makeup, classes at SoulCycle and more.

**COMEDY**

## Kevin Allison's RISK! Live

Thursday, 9:30 p.m.  
The Pit, 123 E 24th St.  
\$10, 212-563-7488  
www.thepit-nyc.com  
The RISK! podcast hosted by Kevin Allison of The State goes live for its monthly staging at The Pit. It's a performance where people step outside of their comfort zone and share stories they'd typically only share with close friends (or shrinks!). The theme of the night is "thanks" — how turkey-day appropriate.

**FILM**

## Nitehawk Shorts Festival

Thursday, Saturday-Nov. 24  
Nitehawk Cinema,  
136 Metropolitan Ave.,  
Williamsburg  
\$11-\$15, 718-384-3980  
www.nitehawkcinema.com  
Support up-and-coming filmmakers at the first-ever Nitehawk Shorts Festival, which will be three days of short movies like "Times Square Of The '80s," and "Green Death." More than 90 percent of the filmmakers are from Brooklyn — represent.

**FOOD + DRINK**

## A Taste of Rum Festival

Friday, 7 p.m.  
SOB's, 204 Varick St.  
\$10-\$15, 212-243-4940  
www.tasteofrums.com

**HOLIDAY**



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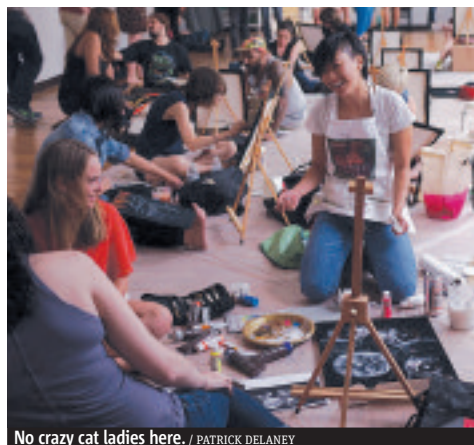
## 15th Annual Cranksgiving

Saturday, 12:30 p.m.; Solar One, 24-20 FDR Drive Service Rd.; Free, 212-505-6050; www.cranksgiving.org  
All you need is a bike, a bag, a lock and about \$20 to participate in this food drive on wheels. The part-ride, part-scavenger hunt benefits City Harvest, providing tons of needy families with food during Thanksgiving week.

**ART**

## Cat Painting Takedown

Nov. 24, 6 p.m.  
The Active Space,  
566 Johnson Ave., Bushwick  
Free,  
www.566johnsonave.com  
Beer, chili and CATS!!! This cat painting auction features 20 Brooklyn artists painting while you watch cat videos, eat, drink and party. All proceeds go to BARC animal shelter. It's the purrrrrfect party for your inner cat lady.



No crazy cat ladies here. / PATRICK DELANEY

## Sausage Fest 2013

Nov. 24, 2 p.m.  
The Bell House,  
149 Seventh St., Gowanus  
\$20, 718-643-6510  
www.thebellhouseny.com  
That's right, a Sausage Fest! No, really — each contestant gets 10 pounds of sausage and \$50 for ingredients to make a sausage that'll really wow a crowd. For \$20 you get to try every sausage in the house and vote for your favorite. Who will be the "best of the worst?"

**ART**

## Aqueduct Murals

Saturday, Noon  
Aqueduct Raceway,  
110-00 Rockaway Blvd., South  
Ozone Park, Free, 718-641-4700  
www.aqueductmurals.com  
Banksy's monthlong residency may be over, but NYC street art is eternal. While there may not be a truck full of stuffed animals, and certainly nobody

is charging you money to look, the grandstand walls of the Aqueduct Racetrack will be transformed into canvases for 11 current artists, from Queens to South Africa, to become a street art show. The theme is, appropriately, "horse racing."

**HOLIDAY**

## New York State Cider & Thanksgiving Market

Nov. 24, 11 a.m.  
902 Peck Slip  
Free, 888-535-9138  
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Nothing says Thanksgiving

**MUSIC**

## Bon Journey

Friday, 8 p.m.  
Katch Brewery & Grill,  
3119 Newtown Ave., Astoria  
Free, 718-777-2230  
www.katchastoria.com  
You like your Bon Jovi jams with a side of "Don't Stop Believing"? Yeah, we do too. Behold, the

ultimate Bon Jovi/Journey cover band. While you're jamming, drop a Jackson on the bar for a taste of any of Katch's 50 craft beers and its seasonal menu.

## Kanye West

Saturday-Nov. 24, 8 p.m.  
Madison Square Garden,  
Four Pennsylvania Plaza  
\$49.50-\$159.50, 212-465-6741  
www.thegarden.com  
The big Yeez brings his "Yeezus" tour to the Garden with special guests Kendrick Lamar and A Tribe Called Quest. Kanye West says he's a genius, Lamar says he's "the king of New York" and A Tribe Called Quest is probably both of those things.  
**JAY HONSTETTER**

**LECTURE**

## Rich Dad Education Workshops

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**PARTY**



Pauly D / GETTY IMAGES

## F\*ck Cancer Benefit with Pauly D

Thursday, 10 p.m.  
Pacha NYC, 618 W. 46th St.  
\$40, 212-209-7500  
www.fcancerevents.com  
It's "T-Shirt Time" at Pacha as F\*ck Cancer throws its first-ever NYC event with "Jersey Shore"'s Pauly D spinning records and MTV's Diem Brown, a cancer survivor herself, hosting. Tickets come with a T-shirt, which has to be worn to get in.

**We want you**

## Upload your own events!

Have an upcoming event that you want to let Metro readers know about? Send an email to events@metro.us and we'll get it on our new listings website.

Listings with shaded backgrounds are sponsored listings.

## Horoscope

**♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21.** Start making changes that will boost your cash flow. Using your talents in a unique fashion will lead to unusual prospects.

**♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21.** Keep your thoughts a secret. Dodging a sensitive situation will buy you time, allowing you to make personal changes.

**♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan. 20.** Share your emotions and discuss matters that concern your home reputation. Much can be accomplished if you are open about your loyalty.

**♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb. 18.** Concentrate on what will bring you the highest return. Don't trust anyone to take care of matters that concern you personally.

**♓ Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20.** Make your move and don't look back. You've got what it takes to dazzle. Romance will enrich your love life.

**♈ Aries | March 21-April 20.** Don't feel pressured to make a move or help someone who doesn't reciprocate. You may be a doer, but that is no reason to let anyone take advantage of you.

**♉ Taurus | April 21-May 21.** Personal improvements will boost your ego and help you project a positive image. An agreement will ensure that you can accomplish your goals.

**♊ Gemini | May 22-June 20.** Look at every angle of a situation and consider all possibilities. False hope will lead to disappointment.

**♋ Cancer | June 21-July 22.** A true assessment regarding your skills and abilities must be presented if you don't want to fall short when asked to perform. A change in your status is apparent.

**♌ Leo | July 23-Aug. 22.** You may be enticed by something or someone unique, but problems will arise if you neglect your responsibilities.

**♍ Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** You'll gain respect if you help. The impression you make on someone will strengthen your bond. Love is highlighted.

**♎ Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22.** Not knowing which way to turn will leave you in an awkward position. Overreacting must not be allowed to result in making a costly move. **BERNICE BEDE OSOL**

## Letters

## Give Metro a pat on the back

**Re: 'Thank you, readers, for keeping Metro on top' (Metro, Nov. 19)**

Congratulations to you as well. Newspapers and magazines have to deal with increasing costs for newsprint, delivery and distribution along with reduced advertising revenues and declining readership due to competition from the Internet and other new information sources. I've been grateful that you have afforded me the opportunity to express my views via letters to the editor along with others who may have different opinions on the issues of the day.

Patronize the advertisers; they provide the necessary revenues to help keep Metro free! Let them know you saw their ad. This helps keep our neighbors employed and the local economy growing. In the marketplace of ideas, let us hope our Metro continues to survive and prosper!

**LARRY PENNER, VIA EMAIL**

## Health is employer's concern

**Re: 'A weighty issue' (Metro, Nov. 19)**

I disagree with letter writer Tim Riker's response. There is no such evidence that overweight people can perform the same tasks as healthy, in-shape people. Many people are diagnosed with arthritis, a disease that still does not have a distinct cause. However, it is the obligation of the employees to notify their employer that they no longer can perform the tasks they stated they could perform in writing when they filled out an application. Healthy people should not share a burden, they have the right to work with people who are also healthy. An employer should have the right to address any health risks.

**HASSAN SCARBOROUGH, VIA EMAIL**

**letters@metro.us**

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact info.

## Sudoku: Easy and hard

		3			9			2
	5	7	1				9	
8			5			1	7	6
			6			7		4
9		1			2			
3	1	5			4			7
	4				1	6	5	
6			9			3		

		5	8	9				7
		1						
6					7		5	8
	5				1	2	7	
1		4		7		5		6
	7	2	6				4	
5	9		7					2
					7			
4				8	9	6		

**How to play**  
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

## Crossword

## Across

- 1 Pen point
- 4 Volcano fissure
- 8 Big parties
- 13 Kind of worm
- 14 Melville opus
- 15 "Jane Eyre" girl
- 16 Mother of Horus
- 17 Kind of chop
- 18 Mars explorer
- 19 Large parrot
- 20 "Great" Australian landmark (2 wds.)
- 22 Baseball bat
- 24 Duke or count
- 25 Avail oneself of
- 26 Thicken
- 28 Santa — winds
- 31 Hindu's true self
- 34 Gator kin
- 35 Worked up
- 36 Loaf end
- 37 From Kilkenny
- 38 Yield, as territory
- 39 Wagner's earth goddess
- 40 Takes into custody
- 41 Agreed with
- 42 Hi-tech scan
- 43 Places for pints
- 44 "—appetit!"
- 45 Nicholas or Alexander
- 47 Paper-folding art
- 51 Cave dweller

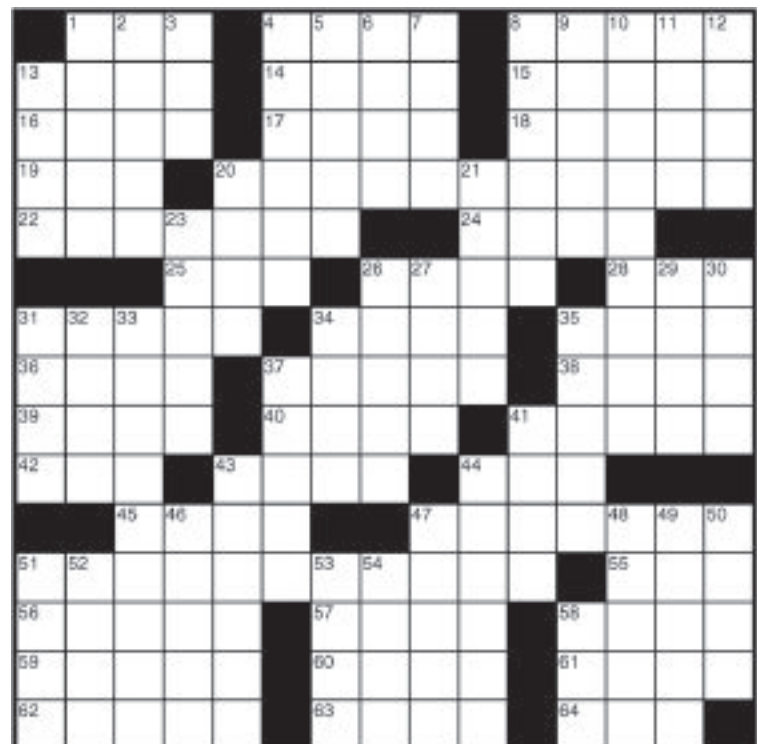
## Down

- 55 Quick turn
- 56 Went on stage
- 57 Q.E.D. part
- 58 — -ho
- 59 Sand bar
- 60 Wine or harbor
- 61 Fly, to a spider
- 62 Throng
- 63 Corset stiffener
- 64 — Lingus
- 1 Japanese American
- 2 Of the pelvis
- 3 Library vols.
- 4 "Nel blu dipinto di blu" song
- 5 Atlanta campus
- 6 Roulette color
- 7 Singer — Braxton
- 8 Loft
- 9 Be crazy about
- 10 Exerted influence on
- 11 Helm position
- 12 Feudal underling
- 13 Turban wearer
- 10 Petty officer
- 21 Geologic period
- 23 — Lumpur, Malaysia
- 26 Corn holders
- 27 Defeat
- 29 Leaf juncture
- 30 Like good brandy

## 31 "Beg pardon!"

- 32 HI or AK, once
- 33 One who contemplates
- 34 Shore catch
- 35 Zipping through
- 37 Get acclimated
- 41 Seed bed
- 43 Go by canoe
- 44 Ill-behaved
- 46 Links champ Sam —
- 47 John or Maureen
- 48 Lapis lazuli color
- 49 Gold digger?
- 50 Pop music's — Pop
- 51 Vintage vehicle
- 52 Yodeler's answer
- 53 Gym iterations
- 54 Easy gait
- 58 College stat

## Yesterday's answer





## Storm brewing



Rodriguez flatly denied using PEDs. / GETTY IMAGES

## Rodriguez storms out of arbitration

Alex Rodriguez's arbitration hearing continues to descend into the absurd.

According to WFAN, Rodriguez angrily stormed out of his arbitration hearing with MLB Wednesday morning, calling the proceedings a "farce."

"I am disgusted with this abusive process, designed to ensure that the player fails," Rodriguez said in a statement.

The Yankees third baseman is in the process of appealing his 211-game suspension over the use of performance-enhancing drugs.

Rodriguez and his lawyer Joe Tacopina requested MLB Commissioner Bud Selig testify in front of the arbitrator, which was denied. WFAN reports this led to Rodriguez slamming his fist on the table and immediately leaving the hearing. **MARK OSBORNE**

## Pray it away

## Diaz, clergy to pray for Rodriguez

Ministers from the New York Hispanic Clergy Organization and State Sen. Reverend Ruben Diaz are planning to pray outside the MLB offices in Midtown on Thursday.

"It reeks of discrimination," Diaz said in a statement. "I believe that MLB Commissioner Bud Selig has been much kinder and gentler in their punishments for others who have done worse things."

**DANIELLE TCHOLAKIAN**

# Simms learning from famous dad

**NFL.** The Jets backup confided in his father following a strong relief performance.

Following the Jets' 37-14 loss in Buffalo this past Sunday, Matt Simms returned to his Bergen County home to sit and contemplate the game, just like the rest of his teammates.

Except Simms has a legendary father sitting in the living room, talking him through play by play.

Simms entered the game in the first quarter for a few snaps when starter Geno Smith went down after a hard hit and again in the fourth quarter when Smith was yanked after a dismal effort. His four completions for 60 yards were career highs and he turned heads with a 13-yard touchdown pass to Jeff Cumberland.

Simms and his father sat around the kitchen table and talked about the game, just like they did when he first started to play football at the youth level through his time at Don Bosco Prep in Ramsey, N.J., where he was the No. 14 quarterback in the na-



Matt Simms celebrated his first career touchdown pass last Sunday. / GETTY IMAGES

## By the numbers

## 95

Phil Simms won 95 games for the Giants during his career from 1979-1993.

tion, according to Rivals.com.

"It was a cool moment for us, because he knows the things I had to go through to get to this point," Matt Simms told Metro. "He was trying to find something to eat. It

was typical father-son talk. It just happens that my father was a really good player. He was a good player so when I talk to him and explain things to him, his viewpoint is a little more on top of it than most fathers."

But it hasn't been an easy road to the NFL for Simms, despite a pedigree that includes a Super Bowl winner for a father and a brother, Chris, who had a solid NFL career of his own. He started his college career at Louisville, but twice transferred. He

eventually went undrafted out of Tennessee before coming to New York as an invitee to rookie minicamp the last two years. He stuck this time.

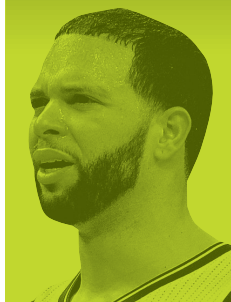
"It made me grow as a person," Simms said. "And when you grow as a person, you also grow as a football player."

**KRISTIAN DYER**

[sports@metro.us](mailto:sports@metro.us)

# 3

## SPORTS



D-Will returns

### Williams returns to action

Deron Williams returned to action for the Nets Wednesday night against the Bobcats. Williams sprained his ankle against Phoenix on Nov. 15 and missed games against the Clippers and Trail Blazers. The Nets lost both games.

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## NFL power rankings | by Mike Greger

No. 1



### Seahawks (10-1)

OK, now Seattle has some weapons. The return of Percy Harvin, who had a 58-yard, game-changing kick return, only increased Seattle's dominance over the NFL. With Russell Wilson and Marshawn Lynch leading the way, it's going to be tough to unseat the kings of the Pacific Northwest.

No. 2

### Broncos (9-1)



Three sacks on Alex Smith and a goal-line stand were as important as anything Peyton Manning did against KC.

No. 3

### Chiefs (9-1)



It's funny we're talking about an ineffective offense with Andy Reid, but KC needs to start putting up numbers.

No. 4

### Saints (8-2)



One thing you thought you'd never hear: New Orleans needs a win this week to fend off the pesky Panthers.

No. 5

### Panthers (7-3)



They are up to six straight wins, including back-to-back upsets over the 49ers and Patriots. Impressive stuff.

No. 6

### Colts (7-3)



The trade for Trent Richardson may have been pointless given the way Donald Brown ran last Thursday.

No. 7

### Patriots (7-3)



You can't cry over non-calls. But the Panthers proved you can throw on that secondary, even Aqib Talib.

No. 8

### Bengals (7-4)



If Cincy can win a divisional game where Andy Dalton struggles then they can never be counted out.

No. 9

### 49ers (6-4)



The Niners are in must-win mode after dropping two-straight. Luckily for them, they now draw the Redskins.

No. 10

### Lions (6-4)



The Steelers may have laid out the blueprint for slowing Matthew Stafford and Megatron last Sunday.

No. 11

### Bears (6-4)



In the year of the backup QB, Josh McCown just may be the best second-stringer around. They're at the Rams Sunday.

No. 12

### Cardinals (6-4)



Arizona is a mystery wrapped inside an enigma. The Cards keep winning despite a stagnant Larry Fitzgerald.

No. 13

### Eagles (6-5)



Who said head coach Chip Kelly would fail in the NFL? If the Birds keep winning, he'll be a hero in Philly.

No. 14

### Ravens (4-6)



Ray Rice finally busted out with the big day his fantasy owners had been dreaming about for months.

No. 15

### Dolphins (5-5)



Miami had arguably the biggest win of Week 11, proving they could overcome a scandal while fighting for the playoffs.

No. 16

### Jets (5-5)



As Willie Colon so eloquently stated, "We lost to the f---ing Buffalo Bills." You did. And they whooped you.

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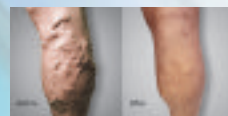
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**NOTICE OF FORMATION of Love Works Media LLC.** Art. of Org. filed with the Secy. of State of New York (SSNY) on 09/26/2013. Office location: New York County, SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: The LLC, 402 E 90th St., Apt 5A, New York, NY 10128 Purpose: Any lawful business.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that a license, Number 1274710 has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Wine & Beer at retail in a Restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 1442 Lexington Ave., New York, NY 10128 for on-premises consumption. Elcosmor, LLC d/b/a Bonjour Crepes & Wine 94th

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**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that a license, Number 1274584 has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Liquor, Wine & Beer at retail in a Restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 1805 Nostrand Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11226 for on-premises consumption. Roof Sports Bar & Grill Corp. d/b/a Roof Sports Bar & Grill

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**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that a license, Number Pending, for Beer & Wine has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Beer & Wine at retail in a Restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 91-07 31st Avenue, East Elmhurst, NY 11369 for on-premises consumption. Kelly's Bakery Corp.



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Photo by Michael Mazzone

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